

female mimics INTERNATIONAL

THE ORIGINAL MAGAZINE FOR MEN WHO ENJOY DRESSING LIKE WOMEN!

VOLUME 11 NUMBER 8

NO. 8

FEATURING HOLLYWOOD'S
NEWEST SEX SYMBOL

**"KAREN" OUR
COVERGIRL**

A FANTASY LOOK AT TWINS
IN DRAG

**DOUBLE
DELIGHTS**

THE CONTINUED STORY OF

**CHANGE OF
GENDER AND
LINDA LEE'S COLUMN**

PLUS: THE 10TH ANNUAL

**BATTLE OF THE
V.I.P.'S**

AND INTRODUCING AMERICA'S HOT
FILM SENSATION:

**JENNIFER
SOMMERS**

ADULTS ONLY

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**NEW
PERSONAL
ADS OF
PEOPLE YOU
WANT TO
MEET!**

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EDITORIAL



The list of responses to *Female Mimics International* would do any publisher/editor very proud! It should please all of us to know how much goodwill and fulfillment this wonderful publication brings to all, especially to those exceptional people who are unable to get our magazine on a regular basis and really enjoy the issues they can get!

Presently we are very busy trying to make *F.M.I.* easier to obtain, so for those who are interested in our special subscription offer, write me for more information.

We hope those of you who are involved in the complicated world of "transgendered" people stay in touch with us and help us help the rest, who have no understanding of what they are feeling! And also have an opportunity to make friends and lovers with unique people who share your own fantasies and interests!

As you know, it is very difficult to answer everyone's intimate questions on a regular letter basis, so we try our best to answer the most frequently asked questions with our "Letters to the Editor" section. So continue to write us, and send those snapshots to show *F.M.I.* and fellow readers your progress and ideas, because we do care!

Happy dressing,

Kim Christy

**FEMALE MIMICS
INTERNATIONAL**
P.O. Box 1622
Studio City, CA. 91604



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Letters to the Editor

IF YOU WISH TO WRITE TO KIM AND POSSIBLY HAVE YOUR CORRESPONDENCE PUBLISHED, PLEASE ADDRESS IT TO KIM CHRISTY, C/O FEMALE MIMICS INTERNATIONAL, P.O. BOX 1622, STUDIO CITY, CA 91604.

Dear Kim:

I would like to compliment you on the very high quality of your magazine. On several occasions in the past I have ordered TV magazines through mail order and houses and consequently have received several different types of TV magazines.

However, I am most impressed with your magazine which seems to stand head and shoulders above the rest, specifically with regard to your



editorial policy of printing a large number of high quality pictures in good taste in both black and white and color in each issue. I also like the limited number of informative TV articles and stories in each edition, and most important, the very attractive female impersonators that allow to be shown in your magazine. They are just gorgeous! Keep up the good work. By the way, the latest issue which I received

was the Spring 1979 issue. Are there any subsequent editions available, and if so, where from?

As a novice TV myself, I would like to correspond with other TV's or TS's who have reached a higher level of achievement than I, so that I might learn from them to perfect my make-up techniques, hair styles, clothes fashions, gestures and body movements, etc, as well as sharing mutual interests, hobbies, sports and so on.



Notwithstanding your policy of not releasing data on your models (for obvious reasons), I would like to correspond with one or more of your models, if they would like to correspond with me, so I would ask for your assistance at this time. Specifically, I would like to correspond with Shalei, Andrea or the unnamed model featured in the article "The Final Step", in your Spring 1979 issue, if they are still in touch with you from

time to time, and if they would be interested in corresponding with one of your readers. Perhaps you might wish to show them this letter and two pictures of myself taken last January, which I have attached.

Incidentally, this may be an idea for another reader service aside from your magazine publication, to allow you initially so as to sort out any irresponsible or "crank" type persons and/or to protect individual privacy. Individuals could decide for themselves how much information they wish to share with the other party, or they could decide not to reply at all.

Sincerely,
Kathleen

Dear Kathleen:

Thank you for writing. Maybe you should try an ad in our Personal Ad section with your picture. Doing this might enable you to correspond with other TV'S and/or TS'S who have received a higher level of achievement, and could give you some helpful suggestions.

Sincerely,
Kim Christy

Dear Kim:

Just a line to thank you for your magazine which is greatly appreciated in the U.K. Also

HOLLYWOOD HOTS



FLAMINGO FOX COMING OUT ON TOP...

enclosed are a few shots of myself, any of which you can use in your magazine. Being tall has its disadvantages for us TV's, but I am a comfortable size 14, and one advantage is, as you can see, my long legs.

Yours,
Julie



Dear Julie:

We are always delighted to hear that our magazine is appreciated. I have included your picture in our Personal Ad section, and I am sure you will receive a wonderful response.

Sincerely,
Kim Christy

Dear Kim:

I am twenty-three years old and have been crossdressing for about ten years. I started sneaking things out of my sister's room when I was thirteen. Whenever I was left alone I would dress up in whatever I could find around the house. Eventually I bought a few things of my own. This was all a secret until I graduated from high school and went to college. As soon as I got away from home I acquired a complete wardrobe and began to dress up as a girl regularly. Before long I was going out in public.

I am slender and effeminate as a male (5'7" tall, 110 pounds), so becoming a girl was not a physical problem, although my nose was too big and my hands are larger than I would like. I had to work a long time to learn the mannerisms and speech patterns but it comes eventually with daily practice.

About the middle of my freshman year I decided to go full time as a woman. It was a big decision. I knew my family would be very upset and I expected the college officials would object. I got together with a minister who understood my desires and helped me a great deal in this troubled time. Together we were able to convince my family that the change did not mean the end of the world for me or for them. My mother and sister were sympathetic but my father found it harder to take. After a little while he became more accepting and now there is no problem with my parents. And, little by little we have managed to tell the relatives. Some accept me and some do not.

At first I wanted to have an operation as soon as possible, but a transsexual counseling service convinced me that I

should wait and try things out for at least a year. It was good advice.

When I began showing up for classes in a dress the Dean of Students called me in. I was attending a small college with a conservative religious affiliation. Needless to say they were not thrilled about having a person of my sort on campus. This time my minister friend could not overcome the school's prejudices. They asked me to leave at the end of the school year, but I was permitted to wear whatever I liked to classes. Many of the students, particularly the girls, supported me. But, it was not a pleasant experience. I started hormone therapy and, of course, this meant emotional and physical changes. By the end of the term my hair had grown long and full and I was feeling good about my new self. I went home for the summer and stayed with my parents at their summer cottage on a lake. It was just the sort of rest I needed and read a lot, learned to sew, and got to know myself better.

My grades at college had been good in spite of all the problems so the next fall I was able to transfer to the state university where I enrolled in the school of fine arts. I studied dance and music composition for three years and graduated with a BA. I was more accepted at the university although my situation became public knowledge because some students from the college blabbed about it. This meant some unwelcome attention but I had many understanding friends to turn to.

During this time I became completely feminine. I had my ears pierced and grew my hair to below the shoulders. The hormones made my skin clear and soft and I developed a nice bosom. I kept my narrow waist

and added some weight to my buttocks. I had several casual relationships—first with girls and then with men. Some of the men realized I was a she-male. There was no sex—just some petting. I did experience sex with a lesbian girl but the affair was very brief.

During the summer I worked as a secretary in the office of one of my music professors. He was gay and we had many discussions about our common problems with society. He was an older man with a steady relationship and had been through a lot. He encouraged me to seek male companionship.

The summer before my senior year I went to a rock concert with some girl friends. We met the members of the band and one of them asked me to go out the next evening. That was Cecil. He played the guitar, sang, and doubled on the synthesizer. We fell in love and I became his “lady”. I told him right away that I was a boy. He was very surprised but very sensitive and understanding. Since the band was on tour he would be away for several months at a time but we kept in touch by phone. Whenever he had a break he would fly in and spend time with me. The first time we had sex it was fantastic and I knew I would never think of being male again.

When I graduated I joined the band so we could be together always. When the band is not working we stay at his parents house on Long Island. His parents know about me, but it is all okay as they are very liberal, loving people. I am so lucky. The band is not one of the big names—yet. But, things are going well and we do make good money. I work as a secretary and assistant to the band’s agent and manager. This means helping

with tour arrangements, taking care of the instruments and sound equipment, and all the details that go into a successful rock band.

I also design and sew some of the costumes, arrange music, and do choreography if they need it. There are six members of the band including Cecil—four men and two women. My best friend is the wife of the lead guitarest. We go shopping together for clothes. Sometimes we cook for everyone and have parties. The band travels in converted buses and vans. We are like gypsies—on the road eight or nine months a year. It has been exciting but sometimes I really get tired of the driving and constant living out of a suitcase. But, travel can be educational. This week we are in Washington, D.C., and I am having such fun visiting all the museums and monuments. I even went on a tour of the White House (dressed in my linen suit, silk blouse, and hat).

My lover Cecil likes me best in frilly feminine things like garter belts and slinky dresses. He is always buying me little gifts of perfume, jewelry, undies and the like. On nights off we like to get dressed up and go to a fancy restaurant and then dancing or to the theatre or a concert. Of course, I enjoy dressing up, having my hair and nails done, putting on my makeup and jewelry, to go out with my man and strut my stuff. But, a lot of times, I’m content to just tie my hair back, put on a pair of jeans and a tee shirt and be plain and simple Sarah.

My lover paid for an operation to have my breasts enlarged. My measurements are now 36-24-34. I have not yet had the operation to make me a woman. Cecil has grown to like me with a penis and says I’m enough woman for him as it is. Of

course, I’m so full of female hormones I can’t get a very good erection, but I still have lots of sensitivity, and my lover gives me all the attention I can handle. There are times when I long to be a whole person one way or the other, but I guess I will stay this way for the time being.

I know that many people have a certain image of rock bands and the kind of life members of the band lead. Well, I want you to know that in our group there is no use of drugs and two of our guys don’t even drink or smoke. We may dress a little flamboyantly for business reasons but actually we are just normal people. Several of us are into health foods and jogging. We also play tennis and ski in the winter. Cecil likes to lift weights and has a terrific physique. He works out almost every day wherever we go.

Last Halloween the band threw a costume party for some close friends and fans. I talked Cecil into crossdressing for the first time. Some of the other guys were doing the same so he was in good company. But, it took some talking. He is so hung up on masculinity. I made an evening gown for him and got all the underwear and accessories together. I gave him a permanent wave and did his makeup. He had to shave his legs, chest, and arms. When he was all fixed up it was such a sight to see his broad shoulders and muscle-bound arms in a flowing evening dress. He had a lot of trouble with his high heels and I nearly cracked up watching him. He had to endure a lot of teasing but it was really a fun evening. I had a tuxedo made up and acted as his escort. But I wore my hair as usual, jewelry, makeup, and heels. So we were like a pair of lesbian girls with me as the butch and

Cecil as the femme. I called him Cecilia all night and treated him like a girl whenever I could get away with it.

This experience has added a new dimension to our sex life. Cecil discovered how much fun it could be to dress up and pretend to be a girl although he swears he would never do it full time. It is just as well because Cecil is not exactly dainty—6'2" tall and weighs about 220. In any event, after the costume party we bought him some girl's panties to wear. He has always had a strong fetish for my undies, but they are too small for him to wear. For his birthday I got him a garter belt with some fancy hose. These things really turn him on. He wants to get a negligee and some high heels as well. My girlfriends heard this and asked if I was afraid Cecil would wind up going all the way. I said that would be fine. I want whatever Cecil wants for himself. But, I doubt he will go much further. He enjoys his masculinity too much. Except for the costume party he has only warm feminine clothing to bed.

I had never seen your publication until recently. Of course, I knew there were such people as female impersonators, transvestites, and transsexuals. Cecil went into a bookstore in Times Square one day and bought several magazines on the subject. Your publication was the best and now we look for it everywhere we go. I am glad you are publishing. It is important for the public to know more about us and to realize we are not sexual freaks—but real human beings. We have as much to offer society as anyone.

Eventually Cecil and I want to retire from the rock scene and settle down somewhere as man and wife. We hope to adopt children. Cecil would like to go

to college and I dream of being a mother and a housewife. Or I might go to work as a secretary. In a few years we should have enough money saved to do this.

I just realized what a long letter this is. I am waiting for Cecil to come back and pick me up so we can go shopping—he's late so I just keep writing. Best wishes and please keep up the good work.

Love,
Sarah

Dear Sarah:

Your's is an encouraging story. Thank you for sharing it. I'm sure you and Cecil will fulfill your dreams together.

*Keep up the good work,
Kim Christy*

Dear Kim:

I would like to begin by saying, "thanx." You are doing a super job, and I'm glad you're back.

Although I'm not a well known person of show biz, I would like to express my personal sorrow for the family and friends of Amanda and Kristy. Both were very beautiful in appearance, and, from interviews I've read, also in soul and spirit. God bless them both!

And, because I'm always looking at other women, I must say Kim, you are very beautiful yourself. I say this out of envy, not jealousy. I feel, that when made up, I too am very pretty. I only wish I'd pursued my Thespian career. I always loved performing on stage. But, at the age of 30, I don't think I could make it.

Kim, I've got a question for you. I think the answer may be of benefit to other TV's, who desire going full time.

I have searched high and low,

looked in every phone book, and made literally hundreds of calls and visits. Where can a TV find a doctor who will administer, under their care, hormones? I live in the Chicago area, one of the largest cities in the country, and can't find help anywhere. What should I do? I feel I'm ready to go full time, and I have thought about it for many years. Please help if you can.

Love,
Diane

Dear Diane:

Going "full time" is a very dramatic decision and should be thought about very carefully. I would suggest you find a counselor in your area, who, after getting to know you, will be able to suggest a doctor who will provide the female hormones you need.

*Sincerely,
Kim Christy*

Dear Kim:

I have all your *Female Mimics* magazines and I think No. 6 is your best.

In fact it would have been perfect if a spread of your lovely self had been in it. How about seeing more of "KIM" in succeeding issues?

Is "Chrysis" in No. 6 your former roommate? I remember seeing both you pretty "girl's" in magazines a few years ago.

Hope you will publish this letter and photo enclosed. I'm showing off my long and shapely legs I get so many compliments on.

I live with an "understanding" aunt who prefers me living and dressing as a girl which I do as much as possible.

All my love,
Joyce

Introducing

Jennifer

She could be the girl next door, or the college coed you have always dreamed of. But whatever your image, you will be seeing more of her, very soon!

Mid-Western Surprise





Holly

Devil-may-care Holly has them all going, and almost anything goes great for the gal from the southeast part of the country. Holly and "her" unique roommate make a most uncommon couple.





FEMALE MIMICS INTERNATIONAL
CONTINUES WITH ITS
PRESENTATION OF

Change of **GENDER**

THIGHS AND LEGS OF A WOMAN

What he saw completely overcame his anxieties, for the reflection of the figure dressed in black lurex bra and knickers, black suspender-belt and light-tan stockings, delighted him and his whole body stirred with excitement. He took particular satisfaction from the shapeliness of his legs and if he looked at only the lower part of his body he persuaded himself that what he saw in the mirror was the image of the thighs and legs of a woman.

He reached for the black slip and struggled into it, finding it quite difficult to get it over his shoulders as he was broader than Joan. But once he had drawn it down into place it fitted quite well, its length just sufficient to hide his suspenders, and to Henry's mind adding to the attraction of his stockinged thighs. The lacy bosom hung loosely, shaped to take a filled-out bra, so Henry pushed a pair of stockings into each of the cups under the slip with the result that he appeared to have a pair of fairly large breasts. Looking into the mirror again, his excitement intensified at the sight of the shapely breasts, flat stomach, and long attractively-clad legs that were reflected back to him.

He was a good-looking, dark man with fairly regular features and he tried to imagine what he would look like if he had had long hair. It was only then that the idea of a wig struck him and he remembered that Joan possessed a number of wigs that she has worn in her repertory work.

He opened two or three drawers in the tallboy, hoping to find them, but without success. Then he went over to the wardrobe, remembering that there was a deep drawer underneath the clothes' space. Pulling it open he was delighted to see that the drawer was almost full of wigs.

It would be no exaggeration to say that Henry's hands trembled as he took out the wigs, one after another, admiring their colour and various styles. There was such an abundance to choose from that he hardly knew where to start. There was only one thing to do and that was to go through them and try them on.

The first wig he got hold of was a mass of black dangling corkscrew curls built up high at the crown, rather in the style of a Spanish flamenco dancer. He drew it onto his head and walked across to the mirror. It certainly gave him a feminine look but it wasn't the sort of hair style that really hid the fact that he was a man as it gave a

certain hardness to his features and left his ears uncovered. Another curly wig came out next. It was simply a mass of curls, light brown in colour, and having the advantage of coming well down his forehead and over his ears. Attractive in its way, it suggested



a fun-loving girl rather than the quieter, more seductive female he hoped he would see in the glass.

He quickly gained some idea of the sort of hair that would soften his masculine features and lend a more feminine appeal to his face, so he passed over a number of

wigs, including one with a softly tousled look and another with a back-swept front wave falling back from the face with a tapered shag back. Then he found one that instantly appealed to him, one that he faintly remembered Joan had once worn at a dinner party, a long page-boy style in a biege-blonde colour.

Standing in front of the mirror he put on the lovely, almost shoulder-length wig and found himself looking into a young woman's face, one he decided that would have appealed to almost any man. It suited him because it had a wide fringe and completely framed his face, hiding his ears and his own hair. As he swung round the hair shook loose from his face and shoulders, then fell naturally into place as he stood still again.

Again he looked searchingly into the mirror at the attractive face that looked back at him and a tingling delight suffused his whole being. Indeed, he was so excited that he was almost on the brink of ejaculation. It was as if there was a beautiful girl in the room who was ready to make love to him, and there was almost no time to wait. Unable to delay things any longer by putting on the dress and finding a pair of shoes, he lay on the bed and had barely started to move his foreskin over his glans before he came.

'Whatever is this stain on my slip,' said Joan the following evening when she was changing into one of her short dresses. Henry had come into the bedroom making the excuse that he wanted to change his tie, but keen to watch his wife as she changed. She was holding up the black slip that Henry had worn the previous day as she stood there in black bra, panties and tights.

'What stain?' said Henry noncommittally.

'This!' She pointed to a large white stain low down at the front of the slip. 'It was clean when I put it away.'

'More like spunk to me,' Joan said, looking penetratingly at her husband. 'You

haven't been touching my things, have you?'

'Touching your things? Why ever should I do that?' laughed Henry.

'I don't know. It's just very peculiar because I remember that was perfectly clean when I folded it the other evening and I haven't touched it since.'

Henry felt he could be a little bolder for she had dropped her penetrating glance. 'Well, what would I be doing with your slip, for heaven's sake?'

'Oh, I don't know,' said Joan. 'But it's very peculiar. I thought my clothes had been disturbed, too.' As she spoke she opened the second drawer overflowing with panties and bras. 'I found this drawer quite dishevelled—as if someone had been going through it. It's most strange.'

'Well, I know nothing about it,' lied Henry. 'We must have had a burglar.'

'Don't be silly,' said Joan. 'There's been no burglar. But I do know that someone's been messing about with my things.'

Henry brazened out, lying back in the arm-chair as Joan looked for another slip, but making a mental note to be very careful in the future. It was obvious that Joan, with her obsession for neatness, would know exactly where she had put things and would notice if anything was the slightest bit out of place.

NARROW ESCAPE

He knew that he'd had a narrow escape and, in any case, a doubt had been created in Joan's mind. If anything else of a similar nature occurred again she might be astute enough to put two and two together and suspect that he had been trying on her clothes. She was cunning enough, too, to set some sort of trap for him if she had the slightest suspicion.

He watched her closely, her knickered bottom rippling as only a woman's can, as she stretched up to put another slip over her head, her breasts bouncing in the bra,

and her lovely legs taut as she reached up. It seemed to him almost tragic that she had adopted such a strange attitude toward sex, for he was sure that if only this could change they could be the happiest couple in the world. There wasn't much doubt in his mind that he had been driven to putting on her clothes because of the deep frustration in his life for which she was responsible.

It was with such depressing thoughts in mind that he went down to the sitting-room and quite by chance picked up a newspaper article headed 'Men Who Want to be Women.'

The article told the story of four men who dressed as women. The first one was a thirty-nine-year-old executive who was caught out dressing in his wife's clothes. When she had found out what he was doing she immediately left the house and, except during the subsequent divorce proceedings, he never saw her again.

Henry was horrified to read that a man's wife could act so cruelly and he shuddered to think how close he had come to such a fate himself. But would Joan leave him if she found out that he put on some of her clothes? He couldn't be sure, but he was determined at that moment never to take a chance again.

The second story was of an officer who had dressed as a woman throughout his career. The executive had said nothing to the reporter about his past, but this man said he began to put on his mother's clothes when he was eight or nine. By the time he was thirty he said that he had a complete wardrobe of his own. He went on to say that he had eventually told his wife of his 'compulsion' and that she had been very understanding. They were still living together quite happily.

The third case was that of a school teacher who, during his leisure hours, dressed as a woman so successfully that he could go out dancing without being discovered. He said that there was a

'change in his personality when he dressed as a woman' and that he 'instinctively took on feminine characteristics.'

The fourth was a company director in his mid-forties who actually attended his firm's Christmas party dressed as a woman. Apparently it was a hundred percent success, one of his senior colleagues even inviting him back for a drink afterwards.

Henry took a drink from the cocktail cabinet, gulped down half a glass, and sat back in the chair, his mind in a state of turmoil. In the past he had vaguely heard of men who dressed as women, but in putting on Joan's undies he had never linked himself with them, or thought of himself as in any way a 'man who wanted to be a woman.' Now he was brought face to face with the fact that he might be like the men mentioned in the newspaper article.

DRESSING IN MOTHER'S CLOTHES

These men were in many ways very different, Henry persuaded himself, for they all appeared to dress as women most of the time, even masquerading as women in public. That had never even crossed Henry's mind. One of them had been putting on women's clothes since he was young, even dressing in some of his mother's clothes when he was a child. Henry had never done such a thing or even thought about it, of that he felt certain. So had he anything at all in common with these men?

He took another drink and tried to look at his situation objectively. First, he was sure that he was completely heterosexual. What he wanted more than anything in the world was a woman in his life who responded to him completely, emotionally and sexually. That was something he had always wanted and he thought when he first met Joan he had achieved his greatest ambition. He knew that he was strongly sexed and if he was unable to get satisfaction sexually, he quickly became frustrated. But that was a

characteristic he shared with many other men, he was quite sure.

It was the tremendous frustration he felt from living with a beautiful woman who rejected his advances that had first turned him to putting on her clothes. It seemed to



him quite logical that a man who loved a woman who rejected him might find some pleasure in touching, caressing and later putting on her clothes. Her clothes were substitutes for her, and handling them and putting them on seemed to bring him into

(continued on page 45)

SOUTHERN BELLES



Previously featured in F.M.I. these little dolls from New Orleans made a big smash with our reading public. Like sexy nymphs looking to arouse you, Terri and Dusty spell excitement.





The French Quarter is alive with the sights and sounds of street life and these two pros just add to the erotic!

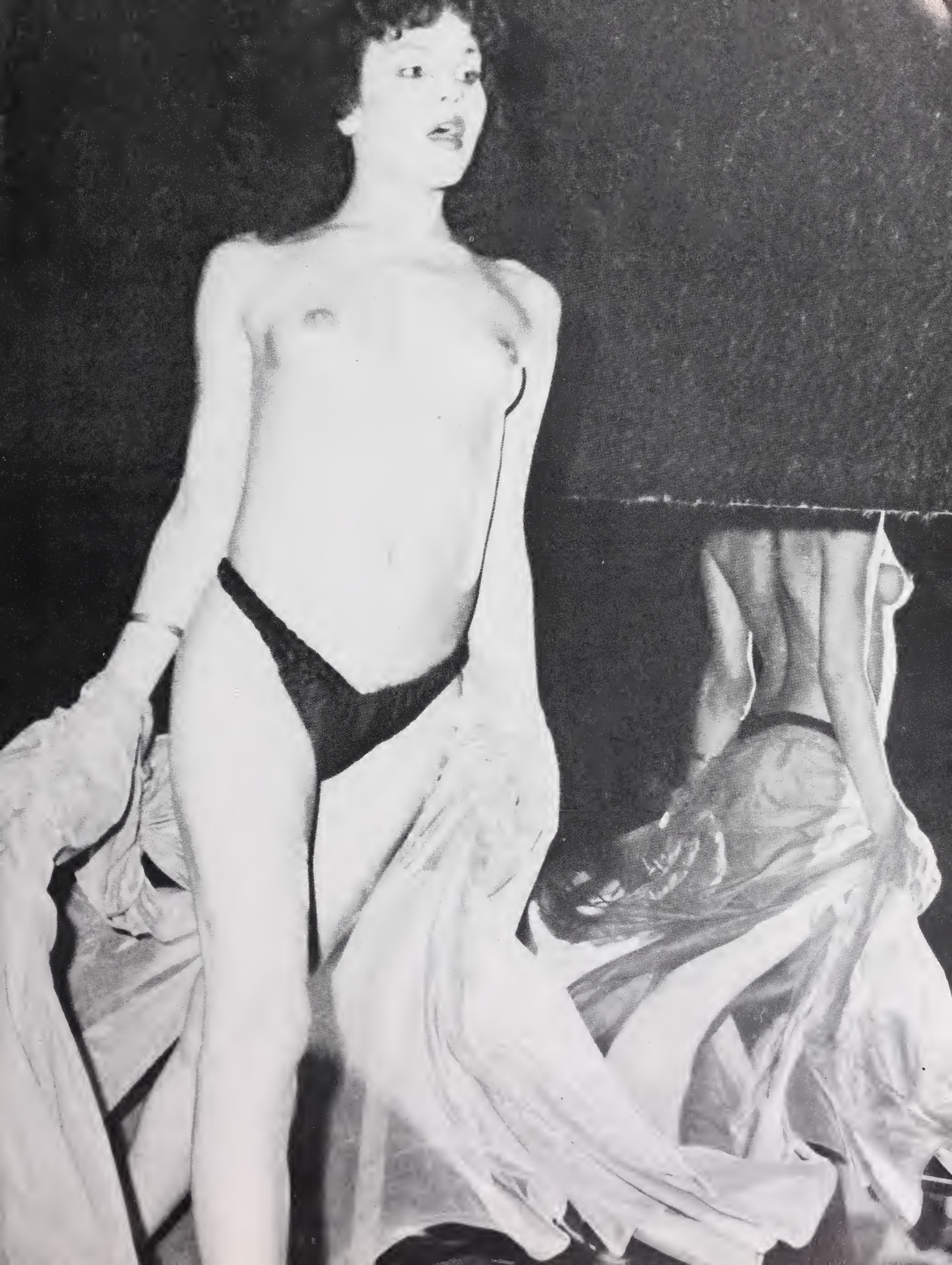






Night Clubs are a way of life for Terri and Dusty. Dancing till dawn and pushing drinks are hard work but it's part of a life style that is provocative and thrilling.





COVER GIRL

Karen

HOLLYWOOD'S NEWEST SEX SYMBOL



After winning contests in her hometown of Rockford, Illinois, the glitter of Hollywood was Karen's next stop for the glamorous action she thrives on.

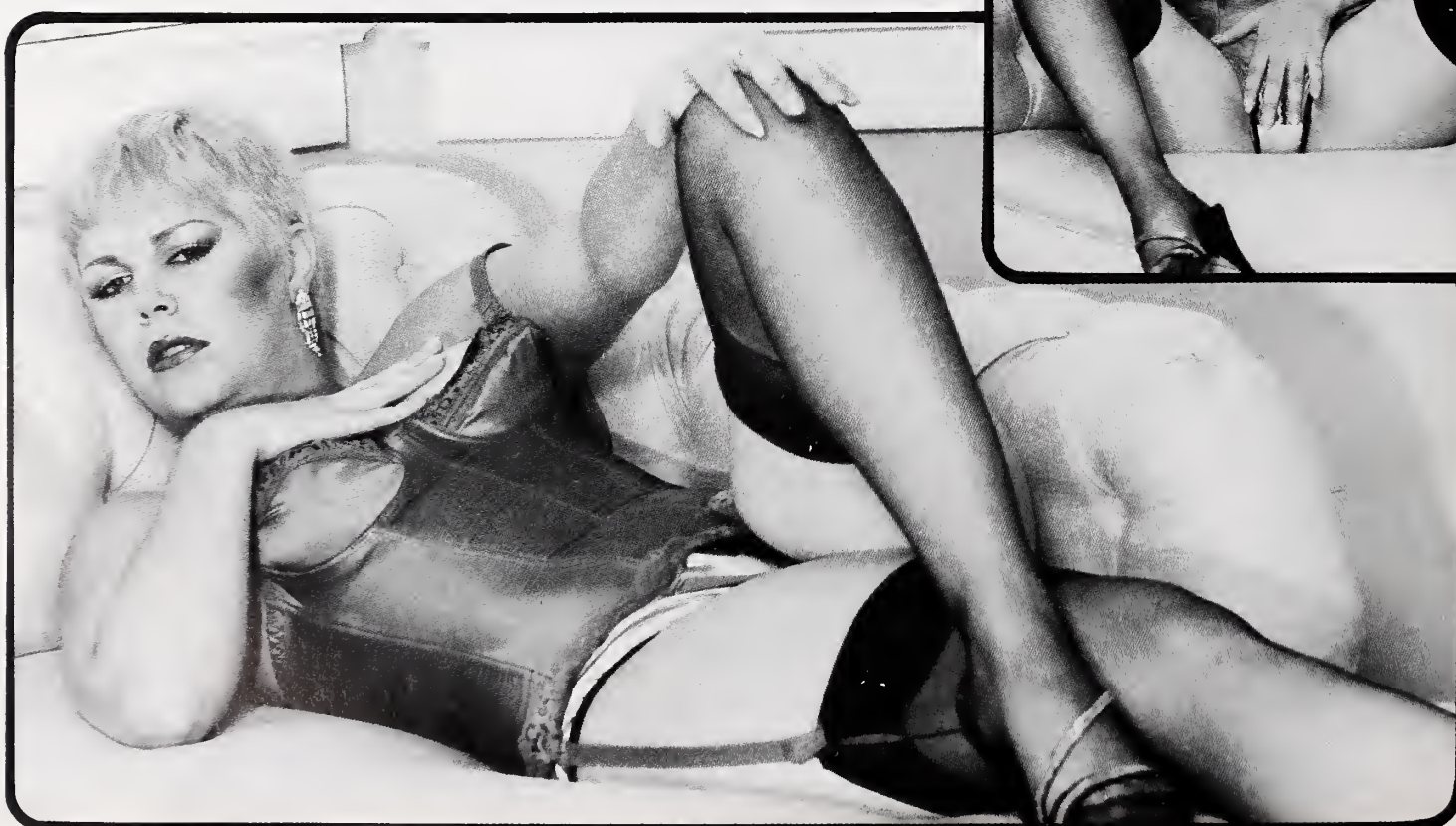


And glamour is just what she adds to the court of the Inland Empire of Southern California where she holds the title of Empress X. Karen also managed to win the title of Goddess VII in the fabulous contest La Rey of Hollywood produced a while back.





Magic blue eyes, and a 5'8" frame dazzle you while you are amazed with her natural feminine qualities and undertones of smoldering sexuality!



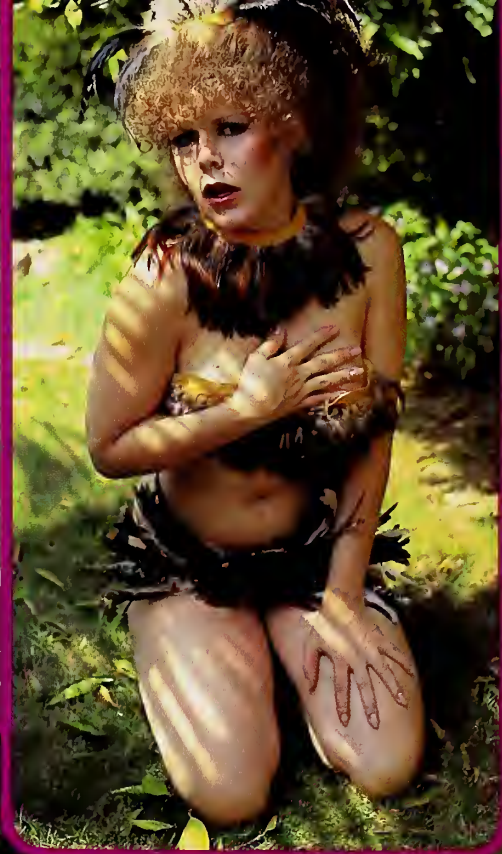


Karen's next step is the film and video world where she will make her debut in the winter of '82. Her clean cut look has attracted a Hollywood producer who feels she has that special something the public wants to see more of. We of F.M.I. couldn't agree more! Although she stays clear of the regular Hollywood limelight, she always can be found at the bigger functions, sipping champagne.





Even if the future does look very bright, Karen is aware of its pitfalls. She is very wary of many second rate publishers and producers who have approached her for work in the past. She is shooting for the big time and is eager to make a name for herself. She will eventually have her complete surgery but for now is content to be just who she is, a pretty person with the best of everything.





THE ALLURE OF TWINS!

The thought of having twice as much of anything appeals to most, but think of the possibilities with Hilmar and Christian, shown here. Equally as beautiful, these "girls" could really have your imagination going. Although twins are rare in the world of female impersonation and crossdressing, they do exist.





Just to keep the record straight, these platinum goddesses are only acting the part. However, great pains had to be taken to perfect their act, both in costuming and make-up. Hilmar and Christian made headlines for years with their famous act and now you can see why!







The fantasy lingers on for many who would wish to enjoy the company of these double delights.



female mimics

PESONAL ADS

SOPHISTICATED, adaptable she-male, with good wardrobe seeks fun-loving people, or to act as friend to TVs. S.A.S.E. to Barbara. **F-100**

MALE, 55, Transvestite—cannot find contact for clothing, equipment and training, wishes to serve and correspond with other TVs. Help, please. **F-101**

YOUNG, 26, male TV would like to meet female 18-30 for fun. Must wear stockings. Possible permanent relationship. Own house and car. Also like to hear from other TVs—anywhere. **F-102**

ARTS graduate with cultural interests. I am not a Transvestite, but I am keen on silky panties. I wish to correspond with other enthusiasts who have similar interests. **F-103**



LADIES! I am in need of instruction in the art and craft of femininity. Womanhood, wifecraft, housewifery, girliness and a host of other qualities and crafts which I sadly lack. Please aid me in the task of molding me to become the proper young lady I want to be. **F-104**

YOUNG, convincing TV wishes to meet similar or sympathetic young lady into makeup and fashion. My interest is fashion photography. Not glamour or nude. **F-105**

MALE TV, 25, needs help in cross-dressing. Wishes to meet/write other TVs or females with similar interests. Discretion absolute. Genuine replies only. **F-106**

YOUNG, pretty TV required for 35-year-old tall, slim, frustrated TV as housekeeper, friend, lover, confidant. I can never be a beautiful woman—let me make your dream come true instead. **F-107**

FEMININE TV passes easily in contemporary fashions or disco dress with spike heels—demure or provocative makeup. Some experience with light domination and submission and fantasy play. Want to share sights and night-clubs of San Francisco with adventurous women and tall, sensitive men. Also enjoy discreet couples. Trustworthy, open and accepting. Will respond to all letters with photo (returnable). **F-108**

TV into extreme tight lacing, ultra-high heels and leather, desires correspondence with others of like interests. Other interests include B&D and erotic piercing. Please enclose photo and S.A.S.E. for reply. **F-109**

SENSUOUS TV—bi dominant/submissive wishes to meet or correspond with bi ladies and men and couples. Will accept male and female slaves, but prefer the woman is dominant. Also TVs and TSs. Enjoy lingerie, high heels and fine clothes. Will travel Southern California. Phone, photo and all letters will be answered. **F-110**

BEAUTIFUL young queen, pre-op TS, Bay Area, wishes to meet and correspond with TVs, TSs, males and females for friendship and fun and games. I enjoy exotic clothes and high heels. French, Greek, bondage and water sports. Photo and phone appreciated. All will be answered. **F-111**

PRETTY, young, effeminate bi transvestite wishes to meet or correspond with strict, dominant mistress in New Orleans area. I love wearing clothes, French maid's uniforms. Other interests include subjugation to infantile, rubber diaper training, petticoat punishment, rubber nurse training, enemas and spankings. Would like to meet and correspond with other TVs, TSs and sincere females. **F-112**

HI! I'M JUDY, a passive and lonely TV who wants to exchange letters and photos with other TVs and females, with a meeting later on. Please hurry and write me. I need you. I promise to answer all. **F-113**



SEXY BI-TV, 42, D.C. and vicinity, wishes to correspond, eventually meet other TVs in area, women also. Love seamed hose, corsets, high heels, boots, etc. Will answer all who include S.A.S.E. and photo. Love photo sessions, too!

F-114

PRE-OP TS with mind of a sensual woman and body to match seeks correspondence and photo exchange with all TSs who feel the same. Sincere letter and photos brings fast reply. No men, please.

F-115

TALL TV wishes to correspond with all TVs and TSs, especially those over 6', concerning availability of lingerie, clothing, shoes, etc. Also wish to exchange ideas on makeup and hair-styles. Let's become friends via the mail with hopes of eventual meeting. All replies answered immediately. Your photos get color pictures of me. Please hurry.

F-116

MALE TV, 54. Would like to correspond with other TV. Also want tips on how to apply makeup, what type of clothes to wear. I am not very attractive but have been feeling female all my life. Want someone to help in bringing out the best of me.

F-117



F-115



F-131

BI-TV, 20, 5' 8", 125 lbs., blue eyes and light brown hair, from D.C. area. Desires to hear from and possibly meet people from all over to further explore the world of cross-dressing and to realize her full potential.

F-119

VERY attractive TV, 30. Bi-sexual. Wishes to correspond with females and gorgeous TVs in U.S.A. I live in England and like glamor, nudity, fashion, high heels and photography. Long letters and photos appreciated and exchanged.

F-120

BARBARA, the sophisticated English she-male, seeks swinging friends. I adore Americans. Own apartment. All letters answered.

F-121

PRETTY 28-year-old TS desires correspondence and meetings with other TSs. Will also help novice TVs and TSs. Will answer all who enclose recent photo (full-length) and phone number, if possible.

F-122



F-132

ATTRACTIVE TV dominant with sensuous flair would like to train slaves with true fantasy. Male and female. Love the bizarre and erotic. Also, dominant ladies to exchange ideas. Send interests and detailed letter for immediate reply. S.A.S.E.

F-123

TV BOY/GIRL from Paris, France, has lived as a girl since a teenager. 27, long blonde hair, into elegant eroticism ala Helmut Newton. Seeking tall, athletic executive to explore dominance/submission in a steady, mutually enhancing companionship. May be permanent. Will consider couples. Sincere only—no curiosity-seekers. Write GOLDEN GIRL.

F-124

DOMINANT mistress interested in relationship with unique individuals and couples. Can provide submissive or dominant male side. Send S.A.S.E. for immediate response.

F-125

LOVELY, sensual TV desires correspondence (and meetings) with TVs, TSs, Fls, and ladies of similar desires. Interests include professional photography, corsetry, lingerie, high heels, and all facets of the feminine mystique. Photo and S.A.S.E. guarantee reply. Discretion and honesty assured. Danielle.

F-126



F-121

TV interested in meeting TVs, women or couples who enjoy the art of transvestism. I enjoy lingerie, heels and hose, French and Greek active and passive. Would especially like to meet a TV or couple to go out together or attend parties in the Philadelphia area. Would also like to meet a gentle male who would treat me like the woman I am trying to be. Photo and phone, please. Discretion a must. Love, Mary. **F-127**

ATTRACTIVE, single male, 27, average height and weight whose sexual desires are exclusively for TVs. I live in Dallas but will travel, especially New Orleans, for the right person. Correspondence and photo exchange also greatly appreciated. **F-128**

YOUNG, 35, inexperienced TV would love understanding female to help him dress up and spend the day with. Prefer Chicago—northwest sub. Will answer all who write me. Prefer women 40-60 but all ages O.K. **F-129**

ADAPTABLE she-male wishes to hear from other she-males. Seeks fun-loving people with similar interests in lingerie, makeup and a variety of activities that two can do. I am shy and lonely but just beginning to open up. Please help. Need help on how to get hormones and advice. Will answer those who are sincere and honest. Would love to get together with another she-male with same interests. **F-130**

SOPHISTICATED queen interested in meeting select men for mutual pleasure. I'm totally passive and not without experience. I'm fluent in French and very receptive in Greek. Phone and photo appreciated. Stephanie. **F-131**

LOVING bi TV would love to meet women, TVs, TSs, FIs, for mutual erotic pleasure. Need help in makeup, dressing. Love most cultures. Discretion given—expected. I'm hot and ready to please everyone. Phone, photo. Will return—send same. **F-132**

TV, age 46, 5' 8" weight 150 lbs., live in the Jacksonville, Gainesville area of north Florida. Wish to correspond and meet with TVs and TSs, understanding women or interested couples. Limited travel to meet you or can entertain at my home. Will answer all who respond to my ad. Love to dress up, take photos, go out shopping, to dinner, etc. Enjoy music and good conversation. Hurry, let's get to know each other. Femme name—(Elaine) **F-133**

Hi! My name is Wendy and I would love to correspond with persons that have the same interests that I have. Possible meeting in future—New England area. **F-134**



F-120

PASSIONATE TV wishes to hear from other TVs, TSs or FIs for possible relationship. I love lace and corsets. Will answer all letters. Joanne **F-135**

Male TV wants to meet any understanding people. Will answer all same day. This is first ad, so please write. Photo nice but not necessary. **F-136**

TRANVESTITE. Married male cross-dresser, 37, seeks contacts with understanding females and other cross-dressers. Open-minded but not into other cultures. Interests include reading, cooking, and nice people. Discretion needed and granted. No pros. **F-137**

DETROIT. Prospective TS needs moral support and advice from TSs and women. 31, 5' 11", 150 lbs. No raving beauty but passable as female. Law student with interests in music, literature and the arts. Lynn. **F-138**

LONELY. Wish to make contact with other TVs, TSs or females willing to help me become the true feminine person I long to be. Attractive, pass easily. Travel southeast U.S. Would like to correspond and perhaps meet others with similar interests. Promise to answer all letters with photo and S.A.S.E. first. Have extensive wardrobe. Intrigued by long fingernails as photos will show. Sincere replies only. **F-139**

YOUNG, 25, TV in exotic makeup and dressing, wishes to meet dominant lady or couple which is in need of a live-in maid. **F-140**

MALE TV, 5' 11", 160 lbs., would like to meet female who would share knowledge in proper dressing and makeup with me. Travel western Kansas. Like all fun and games. Will answer all. **F-141**

YOUNG TV, slim, 22, 5' 6", size 12 skirt/dress. Would like young TV or sympathetic female to write/meet, exchange photos, stories, panties, etc. Those living in the U.K. need only apply. Aged between 18 and 24 years old. If you like a slim friend in flowing skirts and long flowing hair, then write. **F-142**

GOOD-LOOKING executive, 30, 5' 11", 165 lbs.; enjoys dining, theatre, fine conversation, and the company of a beautiful TV. Let me make you feel totally female! Upstate N.Y. area. Send photo and phone number. **F-143**

BI-SEXUAL, male TV, interested in meeting TVs, TSs, females and selected males for fun times. I am 5' 10", 170 lbs., brown hair and blue eyes. I am interested in hearing from people in the Phila., south Jersey area. Discretion, photo and phone a must. Love, Mary. **F-144**



F-122



F-133



F-134

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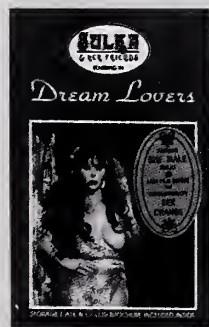


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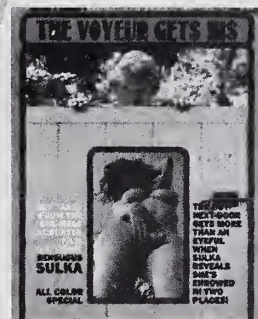
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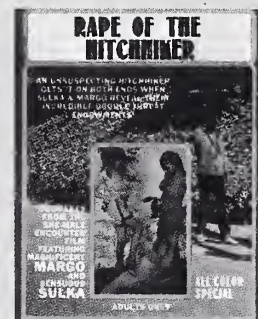
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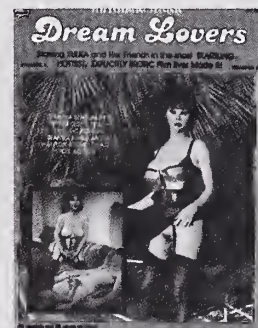
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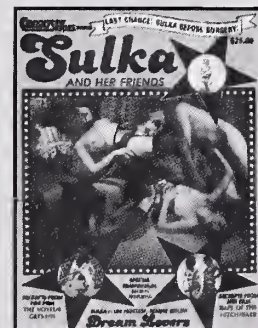
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WATCH FOR "SULKA'S WEDDING" COMING SOON!



F-139



F-141

BI-TV, 5' 7", 138 lbs., wants correspondence with other TVs or guys who like dating TVs. I'm discreet, affectionate and uninhibited. Will travel. Photo, S.A.S.E. please. Promise to answer all. **F-145**

SINCERE TV wishes to meet and correspond with TVs, TSs in Ms., Ala. area. Interests include fashion photography, music, makeup. Can be of great help with shoes as I manage a shoe store in the Jackson, Ms. area. Will answer all who include photo and phone. Hope to hear from all you girls in Ms. and Ala. real soon. Love, Cassandra. **F-146**



F-145



F-147



F-144

SEXY feminine she-male TV would like to meet beautiful females, TVs, TSs, and men over 6 ft. tall for sensual pleasure. I'm warm, loving, and good in bed. I love wearing sexy disco dresses and lacy little panties. I wear foxy makeup, dark lipstick and have long, pretty nails. I'm bisexual and enjoy meeting people who are the same. Photo and phone gets mine. **F-147**

YOUNG, handsome, white male seeks meetings with females and transvestites to teach me about living and loving as a girl. Has potential and would like to be a pretty young girl. Photo, phone and letters all answered. Please be discreet. I live in the N.E. Pennsylvania area. Can relocate. **F-148**

MALE TS, 27, as yet not effemized, can wait no longer to begin. Wishes to lovingly devote myself to anyone who can help finance my transition to female. I will gladly cook, clean, sew, share your bed or otherwise attend to your needs. I am shy, intelligent, sensitive and quite adaptive. **F-149**



F-150



F-151

25 YEAR OLD pretty French female impersonator, pass easily for last two years, desires correspondence and meeting with pretty, convincing TV's. I love lingerie, long fingernails, make-up and especially lipstick. Expert at hand and French lovemaking. No Greek. Replies with letter and photo will be answered. I have large collection of make-up, hi-heels and lingerie. Also interested in photo sessions. Write to Cherie. **F-150**

TV WOULD like to meet and correspond with ladies who like effeminate men. Will also correspond with other TVs and TSS anywhere. I really dig being a girl. Let's see what we have to share. Have never made love while in drag, but would love to. Answer with photo and S.A.S.E. I'm waiting for you. **F-151**



F-154

YOUNG, 24, FI, would like to meet young female 20-28 for fun. Also like to hear from other TV in NY-NJ. **F-152**

LONELY TV desires correspondence and meetings with sympathetic women in Southeast. I'm single, 36, 5' 11", 150 lbs, with green eyes and dark-blond hair. Reply with photo and phone number if you would like to help an otherwise normal, intelligent man occasionally turn himself into an attractive feminine lady. **F-153**

EXPERIENCED, sensuous, irresistibly aggressive TV, 35, looking for men who know how to please a woman or women who want to be pleased. Into everything with a touch of class. Make me part of your Florida vacation! Photo and S.A.S.E. get immediate answer. **F-154**



F-152



F-156

HETEROSEXUAL TV, 32, college grad., married, wife approves, wishes to correspond and set up a club for hetero TVs in N.W. PA. and N.E. Ohio. I love everything associated with being a transvestite. This resort town has promise for a small TV club. I would like to correspond with and meet with several TVs to discuss the possibilities. And I would love to correspond with and meet TVs in my area. **F-156**

MALE TV's first time ad. I am interested in meeting other TVs, TSs or females in Los Angeles area. No guys or pros. I'm 25 and I hope my photo speaks for itself. Need help with makeup and possible introduction to new cultures. **F-157**

FIRST AD ever 3/15/81, seeks nice-looking female anywhere. Enjoy wearing pretty clothing, hose, dresses, shoes, makeup, etc. Are there any understanding ladies out there? Gee, I wish you'd hurry and write. Am completely normal. I do, on occasions, wear mens clothing. And if there are any pretty FIs like Danielle or Heather who'd care to write, feel free to do so. Makes no difference where you live—let's write. We can all be friends. And I think this magazine is the most "honest" way to correspond. Really. **F-158**

I AM a 29-year-old, black, bi TV who is interested in meeting another with a similar interest in cross-dressing. I am not interested in heavy bondage, S/M or drugs. I am looking for a friend to share my interests in music, movies, photography and sports. If you are similar, sincere and discreet, I would like to hear from you. All letters will be answered. **F-159**



F-157

SENSUOUS TV wishes to meet other TV in N.E. PA.—Phila. or N.J.-N.Y. areas for fun & games. Love French and Greek when dressed in sexy lingerie. Please send photo & phone. **F-160**



F-158

HELP! I need someone out there to help me. I'm interested in purchasing female hormones or a prescription for them. I'm desperate! I think I'll go crazy if I don't have magnificent breasts of my own. Will you help me? **F-161**

MALE TV, 45, would like to correspond with other TSs & TVs, Mobile, Alabama area. Wishes to meet with men, ladies & couples for fun & games. Will travel 200 miles to meet you. Apartment available. **F-162**



F-163

SEXY TV, age 27, seeks other TVs, men or women. Like dressing up, letters, photos, need experience and makeup tips. I am discreet and willing to travel anywhere in U.S. Gina. **F-163**



F-164

ATTRACTIVE gay male, age 39, would like to hear from TVs. Also would love to meet more black men. As you can see I'm into dressing and I love going out dancing. Will do my best in making your dreams come true. Would also like to hear from bi females from San Jose area. Lets get together and enjoy being girls, it's so much more fun when shared. Will answer those sending photos and phone number first. **F-164**





F-168

MY FI/TS mate is a sensuous, erotic experience in herself. I like to watch, supervise, and participate. Together we like to meet men of maturity and experience; but also enjoy curious couples and novice TVs. We are easy-going, experienced, and imaginative. Tampa Bay area, but can travel.

F-165

TV, 5' 11", 150 lbs., loves high heels, nylons and garter belts. Would like to hear from or meet TV of same interests. Also would like to buy used TV mags, films and shoes 11-11½, garments size 18-T.

F-166

Denver area TV, mid-20's. Hi! I'm Beverly and I'm lonely. I've been in the closet for 6 yrs. and I'm ripe and ready to break out! Interests include photography, heels, hose, corsetry and dressing totally "en femme." I desire photo exchange, correspondence and meeting with TVs, TSs and women from everywhere. I'm open-minded, sincere and very discreet, expect same. All answered, photo gets mine. S.A.S.E.

F-167

IOWA BI-TV, 31, 5' 7", 130 lbs., would love to meet TVs, TSs, women and men. Affectionate and sincere, will date. Send photo and phone. Love, Jan

F-168



F-170

VERY SEXY TV interested in meeting everyone for mutual satisfaction. Please write, as I guarantee an explicit letter and photo. Please be free as to interests and availability to meet. Photos in first letter preferred.

F-169

TALL TV, 6', 160 lbs., Austin area, wishes to correspond with and meet women, couples, other TVs and TSs. Interested in cross-dressing and its multiple aspects. Basic counter-culture and alternate lifestyle orientation. Please include photo when you write.

F-170



F-169

TV would enjoy friendship and fun correspondence with other TVs or TSs in U.S. I am 30, 5' 11½", 155 lbs., and located in S.F. Bay area. My interests include art, music, amateur radio, and the outdoors. All letters will be answered, without exception. Let's get in contact and exchange photos, gossip, fashion ideas, mutual aid, thoughts and stories. Sherry Ann. **F-171**

I'M a thin, young, good-looking, white male looking for an understanding and affectionate person to help make my fantasy come true: Please dress me in high heels, hose, a garter belt, fancy panties, lovely little dresses or sexy lingerie. Polish my nails and teach me how to make my face. Let me go all the way like a pretty girl and I will be affectionate and responsive. Prefer the attention of a young woman, but will respond to pretty, young TVs, FIs or TSs. Please write soon and tell me about the pretty all-girl wardrobe you have in mind for me. Enclose recent photo, address and phone. Chicago area, but will travel for most promising. **F-172**

DETROIT subs: Sensual bi-TV would truly love hearing from trans, passable TVs who are looking for someone who loves all erotic sex (except pain) who want's a girlfriend or a handsome bi-male lover, kind, gentle, giving person. FIs, females, please write soon. Life is to be enjoyed girls. Very sincere, ultra discreet. Photo, phone, promise to answer all. **F-173**

ATTENTION! European mistress well versed in the art of TVism will conduct trips into your fantasy world! Specialist in makeup and discipline training for "Bad Girls" who need a strict teacher! Write now you naughty girls! **F-174**



F-171



F-173

SENSUAL and submissive TV wishes to hear from dominant persons, to be worshipped just as they wish. Also wish to hear from other TVs, TS's, and FI's for correspondence and possibilities to meet and exchange past experiences and problems as well as female beauty secrets. I am bisexual and S.A.S.E with photo results in fast replies. Christina. **F-175**

GOOD LOOKING straight white male would like to meet an attractive transexual for fun and games. Sincere and discreet in Boston area. **F-176**

NORTHERN Calif. TV, W/M, 37, 5'10" 165 lb., seeking trim good looking female 25-40 for possible permanent relationship. More than happy to share your fantasy or whatever. Esp. like sexy ladies in high heels, make-up, sexy lingerie, etc. Also like to hear from and meet other TV's and TS's. Sharon. **F-178**



F-174

LOVE to meet or hear from other TV's, TS's or lesbians. I am a TV, love to dress up all the time. Live in Seattle area. Lets get together. All letters will be answered. **F-180**



YOUNG TV wishes to meet similar or sympathetic female to help realize dream of being female in public. Possible permanent relationship NW Penna area. **F-181**



YOUNG, good looking hetero male, 5'11", 160 lbs and well endowed wants to meet very feminine TS's, pre-op or post-op, and undetectable TV's. Loves nylons, silks, sexy attire, long foreplay, French and Greek. Photo appreciated and reciprocated. Can travel and entertain. Jerry. **F-185**

ATTRACTIVE, intelligent straight male TV, interested in meeting women only for fun and friendship and to help me with my fetish. Possible serious relationship with the right lady. I'm 23, with sexy brn eyes and hair. I am discreet, honest and for real and I expect same in return. Prefer girls from S.F. Bay area. Photo a must, phone helpful. Ladies, let me be your prince or princess charming! **F-186**



ATTENTION ladies, TV's. I need help in cross dressing and make-up. I need help to be a total woman; only sincere need write. All replies will be answered. Photo will be appreciated. Please send SASE. Hopefully you will be able to meet me and start making me the woman I need to be. **F-182**

MALE hetro/bi TV. Love the feeling of nylons, panties, lingerie and full dressing. Looking for help and companionship of other TVs or TS's interested in fun and games and helping me go public. If you are late 20's or early 30's please send picture and phone or S.A.S.E. I promise to answer all in central Conn. or So. Mass. area. Please get in touch with me. Michelle. **F-183**

BI-TV married and definitely in the closet. Would love to have someone to correspond with. Love panties, nighties, corsets, heels. Am 28, slim and lonely for a sister to write to. Love French and Greek. **F-184**



F-180

F-175

F-178

F-185



F-188

SINGLE, conservative male, 6' tall, 30 years old, living in Chicago, Ill. Has tastes exclusively for TS's, Seeking long term relationship. Photo and phone appreciated but not necessary. **F-187**



F-192

SEXY and beautiful BI-TV is looking for other TV's, TS's, and woman to meet, correspond, exchange photos, movies, etc. I have a large wardrobe and I am passable as a peach. I also train TV's in all the feminine arts. Subjects to be trained must meet my strict requirements. Send for application! No fees. Others please send full length photo and phone to get response. **F-188**

HANDSOME 6'3" bi male, 46. Distinguished, trim looking for young she-male who likes to live like girl friend and needs financial help with hormones etc. to try acquire a feminine body. Be my girl. **F-189**

I too am interested in all who enjoy TV-dressing and exchanging ideas, gifts, etc. Please write and send a photo and tell me your likes and dislikes. Perhaps we can someday meet. **F-190**

YOUNG TV, 26, wishes to become female; seeks older man or couple to take me in and finance my transformation. Will please you anyway you like; only sincere replies. Hurry, I'm waiting for your love. **F-192**



F-190

HOW TO ANSWER A FEMALE MIMICS INTERNATIONAL PERSONAL AD

1. Write your letter and enclose it in an UNSEALED envelope. If you write more than one letter, place each letter in a separate envelope. Each of these envelopes should have your correct address printed on the upper left-hand corner and a postage stamp must be affixed. If you wish to have your letter(s) forwarded by airmail, be sure to use an airmail stamp (or stamps).
2. Write (in pencil) the Confidential Ad Number of the person you wish to write to on the lower right-hand corner of the envelope. We will then properly address your envelope and mail it for you.
3. Send Two-Dollars (\$2.00) for the FIRST letter and One-Dollar (\$1.00) for each ADDITIONAL letter you wish us to forward for you.
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I, the undersigned, hereby represent that I am over eighteen (18) years of age and that the photo enclosed is an actual photo of myself. I hereby give **FEMALE MIMICS INTERNATIONAL** magazine my consent to publish my photo and advertisement in **FEMALE MIMICS INTERNATIONAL** magazine.

DATE _____

(Signature)

PERSONAL ADS

close contact with her—as close as possible short of direct bodily and sexual contact.

But he had to admit to himself as he continued to think about his recent experiences that there was more to it than that. Why was it, he asked himself, that he was so pleased to see his stockinged legs in the mirror? Why that very day had he been so delighted when he saw himself in the mirror and came to the conclusion that he could perhaps be taken for a woman?

Well, the answer it seemed to him was that his stockinged legs helped to create the illusion of a woman's presence, and that was even more the case when he wore a wig and put on a complete set of underwear. He didn't think that he himself wanted to *be* a woman, but rather that when he was dressed as one and he saw his reflection in the mirror, what he saw was sufficiently feminine to trigger off his sexual urge.

How long he would have gone on reflecting on the article and his own position it is impossible to say, but at that moment, his thoughts were interrupted by Jan coming into the sitting-room. She was wearing the black short dress he so much admired her in, dark-tan tights and a pair of white evening sandals.

She seemed quite cheerful and had apparently forgotten about the slip, for she immediately began to talk about their weekend arrangements.

'I thought I might spend one night at my sister's,' she said. 'That's if you've no objection.'

'No, I shall be pretty busy with a piece I'm writing,' said Henry. 'When will you get back?'

Despite the narrow escape he had had and the shock of reading about the men who wanted to be women, Henry's mind was already moving forward to Saturday and Sunday when his wife would be away. He saw himself going to their bedroom and putting on some of Joan's clothes, but he

would be very careful to see that they were put back exactly as they were where he found them. He pushed from his mind the thought that he might be like any of the men in the article, persuading himself that he merely liked the clothes because the feel



and scent of them, as well as how they looked when he put them on, brought Joan more easily into focus, which roused him sexually in a way that he didn't find so easy or exciting without them.

PUBLIC SPEAKING

by Linda Lee



Hello, this is Linda Lee. For the past couple of years I've been contributing articles to *MIMICS* on such subjects as make-up, hair, making contact with other transgendered people, coming out of the closet and so on.

Finally, after several years, something really colossal has happened.

I've run out of subjects!

At any rate, I've run out of subjects that would, on their own, form the basis for a whole article without a lot of padding (you should pardon the expression)

To narrow it down even further, I've run out of subjects that I can write about primarily from personal experience, or at least from

experience that I have knowledge of first-hand. To me this seems the only really valid sort of writing in a situation like this where you and I share a common interest and the only real reason I happen to be the one writing the articles is that I've done a number of things that people seems to be interested in.

"Does this," I hear you ask, "mean that you're going to stop writing?"

"No," I answer, to the intense disappointment of those who think these pages could better be filled with another pictorial on Heather Fontaine (a thought with which, I might add, I occasionally agree.)

What it does mean is that, unless I suddenly have an inspiration for another topic that will require a whole article, or unless one of you clever readers can suggest such a topic (that I feel qualified to write about), the format of my contribution to these issues will change somewhat and rather than a single subject, I'll cover a variety of things at whatever length I think appropriate.

I hope this meets with your approval. If not, my apologies. Or, as we in the jet set say, "Tough toenails."

. . .

One of the things I'm occasionally asked is how I can stand to speak on the topic of transgenderism.

"Well," as Mortimer Snerd used to say, "it ain't easy."

Someone did a survey a few years back to determine people's strongest fears. The survey discovered the fear of public speaking ranked ahead of things like death and divorce.

"Fear of public speaking ranks ahead of things like fear of divorce and fear of death!"

I'd guess this is because everyone has to die and divorce, when the situation requires it, can seem almost as inevitable. Public speaking, though, is generally something that can be avoided.

So most people do.

Ever since I can remember I've been interested in theatre and for most of my life, one way and another, I've made it my work.

But being on stage speaking someone else's words is a very different thing to standing in front of people and letting them see me and answering their questions, sometimes very intimate questions, about the most private and personal side of my life.

To give you a bit of an idea what it's like, I'm going to structure the rest of this part of my article in a question and answer format, rather like what I encounter when I speak in public. Ah, I see a hand in the back row . . .

Why do you speak in public, if it's so tough?

Well, I feel someone has to and, frankly, I'd rather people see me than some of the people they might see.

Why does anyone have to do it?

This answer is based on a personal judgment, but it's a judgment I share with many people. Unless people are out there talking about transgenderism to the public, then transgendered people aren't going to make any progress at all.

It's disheartening how little the average person (and this includes the average doctor, therapist or counselor unless they have somehow been brought into contact with the subject) knows about transgendered people.

What's even worse, what most people "know" about the subject is

often superficial, inaccurate or, at worst, distorted because the most widely available media sources are things like REAL PEOPLE, VEGAS and DRESSED TO KILL. In these the emphasis is on the carnival side-show approach (Look at the weirdos . . .) rather than any attempt at sensitivity or empathy.

What can you do to change that?

My aim, whenever I talk to a group, is to get them to accept me as a person. This involves working past all the labels and misconceptions and it isn't always easy to accomplish. Indeed it isn't possible to do it every time for every person in the audience, but that's what I aim for.

But why you? Why not leave it to someone else?

That's a tempting idea upon occasion, but a number of reasons keep me from succumbing to it.

First, I have no axe to grind, nothing to sell, no pet theory to push, nobody to discredit. It think this is very important. It means that people can hear what I have to say without the thought that I have a vested interest (or even a transvested interest) in being up there. I'm there only because I want people to become sensitive to this issue.

Some of you know that I produced a cassette tape based on my own experiences and observations as a transgendered person. The tape has been on sale through these pages (see plug at end of article) as well as through other outlets in the transgendered community. Yet I never even mention this tape when I speak because I don't want to discredit myself by having something to sell.

To the same end, I steer clear from any "far out" explanation of the transgender phenomenon. I have seen a speaker have an audience fairly well with her and then, in the space of a few minutes, alienate a substantial number of them by trying to tie transgenderism to the concept of reincarnation.

There is certainly a place for that theory, as there should be for all theories, but an introductory talk on transgenderism, which is itself a controversial topic for a lay audience, is not that place. So, just as I don't sell a product, I don't sell a theory either.

Likewise I try not to deluge the audience with technical terms. I always mention one or two books for anyone who has an interest in pursuing the subject further, but apart from that I try to keep the talk on a human level—one person (me) telling another person (them) what this whole thing feels like from my point of view.

My hope is to create some feeling of the common humanity we share and I find I can do that lots better telling about the time my family caught me at age 14 or so fully "dressed" than I can by explaining that Dr. Stoller theorizes that mothers of transsexual boys had weak father figures.

Apart from having no axe to grind, another reason I'd rather be speaking to groups than having them hear some other people is that I try to keep a sense of humor about the subject. I've seen speakers who could reduce an audience within minutes to a state of shuddering dread about the whole topic because the incidents they chose to consider were so unrelievedly gloomy.

Yes, there are horror stories and certainly every transgendered person suffers indignities and setbacks, sometimes severe ones. But unless there is an overall feeling of perspective a speaker can hardly be surprised if the audience "tunes out."

What does that have to do with humor?

What humor does is allow us to see things as no more important than they really are. A man at my last talk complimented me on my sense of humor and I told him that years ago I'd figured out that I could either keep my sense of humor on the subject or get suicidal and I thought the former was a better bet.

Still, my worst failing is probably that I sometimes let the absurdity of the situation obscure the real difficulties and heartaches that can be part of it.

The task is to give a balanced picture that neither overwhelms the audience nor gives the impression that the problem is trivial.

What's the hardest part of your talks?

The hardest part is the questions because they can be very tough to answer and very personal. But this can also be the most exciting part for me because this is where I may learn something, either about the way the audience sees transgendered people or about myself, in the course of answering someone's question.

One reason this is a possibility is that I made a deal with myself when I first started speaking in public that I wouldn't duck any question no matter how personal or difficult. The only exception I allow myself is when an absolutely honest answer to a question might embarrass someone else, which I don't feel I have a right to do.

"I made a deal with myself to never duck a question, no matter how personal."

The groups I've spoken to have either been largely professional people or have been college students taking classes in human sexuality or related topics. As a result most of the questions are, if not terribly well informed, at least sincere and on the level. Very seldom is anything asked to embarrass or harass.

I try to tape every talk I give or panel I'm on so I can get a sense of what questions are most often asked and where the greatest areas of misinformation lie. The more I've found out about the basic areas of confusion, the more I've changed my introductory remarks to touch on these things.

Probably the thing that confuses people more than anything else is that the whole situation of transsexuality doesn't really have much to do with sex.

What in the world do you mean?

Transsexuality really has to do with identity, specifically gender identity. It has no bearing at all on who one would choose as a sex partner, whether one is passive or active with that partner or, indeed, whether one is sexual at all.

Some people have a very difficult time, for instance, accepting that even though I'm transsexual my primary attraction is, far and away, to other women or at least to other feminine people. I explain that one of the things I have to be most careful of in public is how I look at other women, because there are learned cultural differences in the way a man can look at a woman and the way a woman can look at a woman.

The whole question of sexuality vs. gender, or rather sexuality as a separate question from gender is probably the most difficult thing to make clear to a lay audience, but it's one of the most important.

What are some of the others?

Another tricky area is the amount of variation among transgendered people. Most audiences aren't aware that the definitions are much less rigid than were once thought and that there is a great deal of variation even among the people who define themselves as, say, transsexual.

For instance, it puzzles some listeners that a person could consider him or herself transsexual yet not care about getting the genital surgery. As this is the situation I am in, this question is almost bound to come up when I talk and it's very difficult to explain especially since nobody really knows the "why" for sure and all we can do is make educated guesses.

That's fairly personal, all right. Aren't you embarrassed to talk about something like that?

The questions aren't usually designed to be embarrassing, but it's almost inevitable we'll touch on some very personal subjects such as choice of sex partners, how I behave in a relationship and so on. These are legitimate questions and deserve an honest answer because they can help clarify for people what a transsexual is and isn't.

How do people react to the way you look?

It still amazes me that the audience often expects a transsexual to look like a man in a dress. Many people have expressed surprise after the talk that I turned out to be the speaker when they initially thought I was one of the students coming to hear the talk.

Partly I think this comes, again, from media inaccuracy. So often male to female transgendered people are portrayed either as grotesque parodies of women or as super glamorous, rhinestones in the eyelashes, and that sort of thing, that people are surprised when I don't look much different from most of the women in the audience.

I have to admit that I do try to dress to blend in with the students because if I can shatter some of their preconceptions before I even begin to speak, it is a step in the right direction.

The less they find I fit their stereotypes, the more they will have to regard me as a person, and that is the beginning of what I hope to accomplish.

There are some people, of course, who simply can't accept me. Their prejudices are so strong and they are somehow so uncomfortable inside themselves, so "Not O.K." to borrow a phrase from Transactional Analysis, that they cannot accept anyone or anything that doesn't conform to their conceptions of how things ought to be.

I often think that people who are really made intensely uncomfortable by transgenderism probably have, buried away somewhere in their unconscious, some sort of gender conflict of their own. Otherwise the subject wouldn't touch such a raw nerve.

Perhaps an analogy could be made to the person who has no prejudice against interracial marriage until his daughter brings home her black boyfriend. At this point the subject is suddenly close and threatening so it can bring out a strong negative reaction that has been buried.

You mean because the person hadn't had to deal with it directly before?

Right. It seems likely that a person wouldn't react so strongly unless there seemed to be a direct threat. If we feel confident enough to deal with a situation it won't bother us that much.

Of course people who really can't tolerate even the mention of the subject are, luckily, rare and I generally find the positive reactions far greater than the negative reactions.

Of course you are dealing with some heavy issues. Does that have an effect on attitudes?

Somewhat, but remember that not all the questions are so basic and serious. Certain questions come up every time, or almost every time and they're not all so earth-shaking.

"It still amazes me that an audience expects a transsexual to look like a man in a dress."

Such as?

Well, probably the two most-asked questions are: "Which bathroom do you use in a public place?" and "What do you do if you want to go to the beach?"

Probably the next most asked are questions about estrogen therapy, what it does and so on. In fact the question that "gets to me" more than any other usually comes up at this point.

So what is it?

I was afraid you'd ask. It comes in two forms. If I haven't mentioned that I've been on estrogen nearly seven years, someone occasionally asks, "Are you on estrogen?"

If I have mentioned that I am on estrogen they'll ask, "Have you had any results from it?" and I have to gloomily admit that some of us

aren't so lucky as the ones who "blossom" right away or very amply. I explain that, yes, I have developed, but, no, not nearly as much as I'd hoped.

Generally this leads to a question about silicone to enlarge the breasts and I explain the danger of injected silicone and the drawbacks of implants.

Very often some of the women in the audience will try to console me by mentioning that many genetic women are small, and I explain that it's not the results themselves so much as the results contrasted to the amount of money, time and effort I've put into them.

Is the public fairly knowledgeable about things like estrogen and implants?

The women are pretty knowledgeable about implants because, I suppose, so many consider their breasts are too small, an inferiority feeling this society fosters, I'm afraid. One of the things I try to make clear is that I don't want to be a Loni Anderson, I'd just like to fit my clothes better and that sort of thing. Indeed, I explain that one reason I've never gone ahead with implants is that, in order for them to work right they would have to be bigger than I really want. That surprises a lot of people.

It is really surprising how little information the general public has about transsexuals. One common question is whether transsexuals can bear children. I explain that the surgery is purely cosmetic from that standpoint and tell them that anyone who figures out a way for a genetic male to give birth will become rich and famous indeed.

One of the areas where most people aren't clear, as I mentioned before, is the question of sexual identity vs. gender identity vs. sexual preference.

"Sexual identity is what's between your legs; gender identity is what's in your head."

How do you explain that to laymen?

It's not really such a tough concept. Primarily the problem is that nobody's brought it to their attention before.

To make it very basic, sexual identity is what's between your legs; gender identity is what's in your head and sexual preference is who you like to go to bed with and how.

I go on to elaborate that, while some transsexuals are strictly heterosexual (in terms of their gender of choice), others are strictly homosexual, while still others (the majority, I believe) are bisexual, yet this all has nothing whatever to do with the fact that their gender identity is different from the sexual identity they were born with.

Part of the misconception around these areas comes from the confusion of "drag" with both transvestitism and transsexuality.

I explain that, while all three involve wearing the clothes of the opposite sex, it is the reason for which they are worn that makes them different.

Well, what are the reasons?

Okay. A transvestite cross-dresses because doing so gives some sort of sexual or psychic relief.

A transsexual cross-dresses because the clothes happen to coincide with the gender identity, but the clothes by themselves aren't a primary concern. To a transvestite, they are.

In contrast someone who does drag may do so for a variety of reasons, but none of them are internal. That is, someone may cross-dress for a lark (as at Halloween), or for business (as in the case of a professional impersonator) or to attract sex partners (as some gay males do). But unless the cross-dressing has some internal value the person doing it is neither transvestite nor transsexual but simply "doing drag".

Unfortunately that aspect of drag that concerns a male attracting other males has crept over (sort of like a fungus) and become associated with both transsexuals and transvestites, largely, again, because of media inaccuracy on the subject. To someone exposed to this over a long period it never occurs that, perhaps, a transsexual might not be attracted to men.

Why has the media done this?

Well, first of all, I don't mean to give the impression that it's deliberate. Media people are just like most other people; they don't have a lot of accurate information on the subject either.

Then, too, some media exposure has been very good. Merv Griffin and Phil Donohue have both done segments devoted to the subject and have shown themselves as sensitive to the issues surrounding it.

The worst offenders are writers of fiction scripts who portray the subject with gross inaccuracy, usually associating cross-dressing, for no scientifically valid reason, with all sorts of other exotic mental aberrations.

Who can forget Norman/Norma Bates from Hitchcock's brilliant film of Robert Bloch's *PSYCHO* (though to be fair, the film never labeled Norman as a transvestite), various transgendered villains in television shows from *STREETS OF SAN FRANCISCO* to *CHARLIE'S ANGELS*, and, of course, the crazed "transsexual" psychiatrist in *DRESSED TO KILL*.

The fact that the murderer in *DRESSED TO KILL* was not a transsexual at all, but a criminal sexual psychopath with a definite personality split did not seem to bother Brian DePalma one bit. Is it any wonder that a transvestite would be reluctant to admit he enjoys cross-dressing when, to do so might inspire his wife or girlfriend to hide the kitchen knives and refuse to ride in elevators with him?

I do believe that writers have more of an obligation than they have shown in the past to portray transgendered characters, if not sympathetically (no one, after all, has the right to insist that any group be portrayed as "good guys") at least with some regard for the accuracy with which their transgenderism is depicted.

Of course it is at least partly up to transgendered people to voice their objections when we see the subject distorted in television or films, and, conversely, to applaud when it is portrayed accurately and sensitively. Network executives generally believe that each letter actually written represents several thousand people with the same general opinion. So, letters, so long as they are reasonable in tone and content can make a difference.

In a way this brings me back to my original point. The speaking I do is another aspect of the same process as writing a letter. If we don't educate the public, it won't get done.

. . .

Well, here I am at the end of my space having made a fibber out of myself by filling this article, mostly, with one topic. Oh, well.

Since I mentioned a plug previously I feel obliged to put it in here so no one will feel cheated. The cassette *A CONVERSATION WITH LINDA LEE* is still available for \$9.95 plus 65¢ postage and handling. The offer still includes *THE LINDA LEE ALBUM*, my own selection of favorite photos. It is available from *OZMA PRODUCTIONS*, P.O. Box 23001, Oakland, California 94623. Many thanks for all the good comments on this, by the way, I appreciate them. Do let me know if you have any ideas on possible topics for these pages and, until next time, thank you for reading.

Linda Lee

BATTLE OF THE V.I.P.'s



Anticipation filled the hall as La Rey announced the runners-up and winner at her tenth annual Battle of the V.I.P.'s. The "girls" were breathtaking, beaded, jeweled, painted, and powdered. They showed themselves off like peacocks in a sex ritual.





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